Title: Institutional Review Board

Rule: 2.14

General Authority: FS 1001.64; FS 1001.65; 45 CFR Part 46; 21 CFR Parts 50, 56, 312, 812

Law Implemented: FS 1001.64(43); FS 1001.65(16)

Effective Date: October 17, 2012

Purpose and Intent: In accordance with its mission, Santa Fe College encourages research activity among its students, staff, and external collaborators as a means of increasing student engagement, gaining insight into how students learn best, engaging in professional development, and serving the broader academic community. Pursuit of scholarly work and research will often involve the use of human subjects for data collection and analysis. In order to protect human rights and support the interests of the College and in compliance with applicable federal and state laws and regulations, the College establishes this policy regarding research activities conducted by employees, students, or others outside the College involving students, employees, alumni, or other College resources.

A. Authority: An Institutional Review Board (IRB) shall be established and given the authority to ensure that research is conducted in a manner that protects the rights, safety, and welfare of human subjects. In keeping with the statutory responsibility for compliance with federal and state laws, rules, and regulations, and other requirements that are applicable to the College, the District Board of Trustees assigns to the President the authority, duties, and responsibility associated with research involving human subjects, including the assurance of the protection of human subjects in accordance with applicable federal and state laws. The President may delegate authority as necessary to meet these responsibilities. The President or the Vice President for Assessment, Research, and Technology (ART) is authorized to execute agreements related to these research activities.

B. Institutional Review Board: Santa Fe College’s Institutional Review Board is charged with the review of proposals involving human subjects in research to ensure each project’s compliance with ethical standards (e.g. informed consent and confidentiality) to avoid, to the extent possible, any risk to study participants at this institution or any risk to study participants in studies conducted by faculty and staff employed by this institution. The IRB will follow established ethical standards from the federal Office for Human Research Protections on behalf of the District Board of Trustees.
The IRB at Santa Fe College has responsibility to propose procedures for approval by President's Cabinet; the IRB will implement and oversee all approved procedures for carrying out the College's commitment to protect human subjects in research. The IRB is authorized to review, approve, approve with modifications, subject approved research activities to continuing review, or disapprove research activities conducted by or through the College using human subjects. Research that has been approved by the IRB may be subject to further review and approval or disapproval by the Vice President of ART, provided, however, that the Vice President of ART may not approve the research if it has not been approved by the IRB.